

OPINION 114

UNDER SUSPENSION *Simia*, *Simia satyrus* AND *Pithecus*
ARE SUPPRESSED

SUMMARY.—Under Suspension of the Rules the names *Simia*, *Simia satyrus*, and *Pithecus* are hereby suppressed on the ground that their retention under the Rules will produce greater confusion than uniformity.

STATEMENT OF CASE.—See Opinion 90, p. 38; and The Nomenclature for Man, the Chimpanzee, the Orang-Utan, and the Barbary Ape < Bul. 145, Hyg. Lab., U. S. Pub. Health Service, Wash., 1927, pp. 1-66, figs. 1-16.

DISCUSSION.—The vote taken on Opinion 90 stood ten (10) in favor of, and eight (8) against, suspending the Rules in order to validate *Simia*, type *S. satyrus*, for the Orang-Utan; and nine (9) to nine (9) on the proposition to suspend the Rules in order to validate *Anthropopithecus* Blainville, 1838, type *Simia troglodytes* Gmelin, 1788, for the chimpanzee. According to the premises of the proposals which failed of acceptance, the specific name *satyrus* Linn., 1758, would have to be applied to the chimpanzee, while the application of *Simia* remained in doubt; according to the appellants, *Simia* would supplant *Macaca* (type *sylvanus*), but according to some authors *Simia* would become the generic name of the chimpanzee in place of *Pan*.

The complicated nomenclatorial situation was studied in considerable detail by Stiles and Orleman (1927) who invited attention to the potential danger which might arise in medical and public health work because of continued confusion, and they expressed the view that the nomenclatorial situation in regard to *Simia*, *S. satyrus*, and *Pithecus*, was so hopeless that the most practical solution of the problem was to be found in a total suppression of these three names. The data shown in the bulletin (no. 145) are made part of the premises of this Opinion 114.

On motion, the Commission voted (12 to 2) to reopen the case of *Simia* in order to examine the detailed facts to be presented.

At the Budapest (1926) meeting of the Commission, Commissioner Apstein was appointed a committee of one to consider the case and to report his recommendations to the Commission. His report was discussed at length by the Commission which unanimously adopted two resolutions, namely:

(1) That the names *Simia*, *S. satyrus*, and *Pithecius*, be entirely suppressed under Suspension of the Rules; and

(2) That except as already provided in the foregoing (1st resolution), the Law of Priority be enforced.

Voting in favor of these two resolutions were: Apstein, Bather, Hartert, Jordan (K.), Muesebeck, Stejneger, and Stiles.

Voting negatively, none.

Not voting, Howard, and all absent Commissioners.

The resolutions in question were reported to the absent Commissioners in Circular Letter No. 128, and affirmative votes were received from Commissioners Horvath, Jordan (D. S.), and Stone; no negative vote was received; thus the final vote is ten (10) to none (0).

The vote returned by Commissioner Loennberg referred to the original Opinion 90, not to the motion before the Commission.

No vote on the resolutions has been returned by nine (9) Commissioners who had an opportunity to vote: Chapman, Dabbene, Handlirsch, Ishikawa, Kolbe, Loennberg, Monticelli (deceased), Neveu-Lemaire, Warren.

Circular Letter No. 128 was held open fourteen (14) months for vote, and was finally closed February 12, 1929.